UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE     | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |  |
|--|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| 10/765,879   | 01/29/2004      | Shunsuke Matsubara   | 392.1866            | 2295             |  |
| 21171 7590 12/21/2006<br>STAAS & HALSEY LLP<br>SUITE 700 |                 |                      | EXAMINER            |                  |  |
|  |                 |                      | IP, SHIK LUEN PAUL  |                  |  |
| 1201 NEW YO<br>WASHINGTO                                 | RK AVENUE, N.W. |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |  |
| William  | 11, 20 2000     |                      | 2837                |                  |  |
|  | •               |                      |                     |                  |  |
|  |                 |                      | MAIL DATE           | DELIVERY MODE    |  |
|  |                 |                      | 12/21/2006          | PAPER            |  |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



|   |  | Application No.               | Applicant(s)                |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Response to Rule 312 Communication  |  | 10/765,879                    | MATSUBARA ET AL.            |  |  |  |  |
|   |  | Examiner                      | Art Unit                    |  |  |  |  |
|   |  | Paul ip                       | 2837                        |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
| - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address -               |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               | ·                           |  |  |  |  |
| 1. 🔯 The  | amendment filed on 30 November 2006 under 37 (       | CFR 1.312 has been considered | I, and has been:            |  |  |  |  |
| a) 🔲  | entered.   |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
| b) ⊠  | entered as directed to matters of form not affecting | a the scope of the invention. |                             |  |  |  |  |
| c) 🗀  |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
| Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
| •   | and the required fee to withdraw the applicatio      | n from issue:                 |                             |  |  |  |  |
| d) 🔲  | disapproved. See explanation below.                  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
| e) 🔲  | entered in part. See explanation below.              |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               | • • •                       |  |  |  |  |
| •   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             | ,  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  | •                             |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               | • •                         | and the state of t |  |  |  |
| •   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             | Maria de la casa de la   |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |                               |                             |  |  |  |  |
|   |  | ·                             | $\rho$ $_{0}$               |  |  |  |  |
|   | •  |                               | landy                       | •  |  |  |  |
|   |  | ·                             | Paul Ip<br>Primary Examiner |  |  |  |  |
|   | •  |                               | Art Unit: 2837              |  |  |  |  |